

REMARKS

The above amendment and these remarks are responsive to the Office Action mailed 29 Aug 2003 by Examiner Rachel L. Porter.

Claims 1-19, and 22-27 are pending in the case, claims 1-7, 10 and 11 having been allowed.

Drawings

The objections in the previous Office Action to the drawings have been withdrawn. Applicants will submit a corrected sheet 5 of 8, Figure 3C in a separate communication (by regular mail).

Specification

The objections in the previous Office Action to the specification have been withdrawn.

35 U.S.C. 101

Claim 18 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 as directed to non-statutory subject matter.

In order to establish claim 18 within the technological arts, applicants have amended claim 18 as suggested by the

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Examiner to recite within the body of the claim the operation of a computer processor and the use of a computer database.

Applicants request that claim 18 be allowed.

35 U.S.C. 112

Claims 8-9, 12-19, 22, 25, and 27 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph.

Applicants have amended independent claims 8, 12, 16-19, 22, and 25 as suggested by the Examiner so as to clarify what is being claimed.

In the Office Action, claims 23, 24, and 26 have been neither allowed nor rejected, and while claim 27 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, no explanation was given by the Examiner.

In order to further prosecution, applicants have carefully reviewed claims 23, 24, 26 and 27 in the light of the suggestions of the Examiner with respect to other claims rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, and have amended claims 24, 26 and 27 accordingly. However,

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applicants have found no '112 issue with respect to claim 23, and consequently have not amended it.

Applicants urge that claims 8-9, 12-19, 22-27 be allowed.

35 U.S.C. 103

Claims 20-21 and 28 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Davis et al. "The Information System Consultant's Handbook: Systems Analysis and Design", CRC Press, and further in view of Nagai et al., U.S. 2001/0025247 A1.

Applicants cancel without prejudice claims 20-21 and 28.

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SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

Applicants urge that the above amendments be entered and the case passed to issue with claims 1-19 and 22-27.

If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephone conversation with applicant(s) attorney could possibly facilitate prosecution of the case, he may be reached at the number noted below.

Sincerely,

S. M. Jordan, et al.

By


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